

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Tollroads](#)
Subject: Submission to Toll Roads Parliamentary Inquiry
Date: Monday, 6 August 2018 4:55:39 PM
Importance: Low

The Committee Secretary
Transport and Public Works Committee

I make the following brief submission.

In my submission, the most fundamental problem with the system which applies to toll roads is that a failure to pay a toll, which is a civil debt, gives rise to a criminal offence for which a criminal infringement notice issues by the Government.

I am not aware of any other circumstance where such a system applies.

If a person does not pay a civil debt to say, a local authority, a water supplier such as Unity Water, an electricity retailer, the Australian Taxation Office, Telstra, to a tradesperson, or even to a lawyer, the only remedy those entities have is the institute proceeding in a civil court.

There is no reason why there should be a different rule for tolling companies such as Transurban. Queensland citizens should not be subject to criminal liability merely because they are poor or become caught up in an incredible complex tolling system.

There are many instances of some small debts multiplying into hundreds of dollars, some times thousands or tens thousand of dollars of dollars.

A government entity like SPER should not be involved in effectively enforcing a civil liability.

The current system smacks of the much disparaged English debtors' prison which fortunately has long since been abolished.

Could you please draw this submission to the attention of the Committee.

Kind regards



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